

out big pins with the letters W-I-N on them, as Gerald Ford did. That stood for “Whip Inflation Now,” and that didn’t work. Wearing a pin with “Whip Inflation Now” did not whip inflation, nor did Jimmy Carter wearing a sweater heal or fix our problem with a lack of energy. That didn’t work. But that looks like the kind of thing we are headed back to.

There is a great deal of injustice, and I would think, for all of those who obstructed an official proceeding here on the House floor, under the leadership of the Democrat Party leadership, that for far longer disrupted the House proceedings, violating countless House rules, I would think that with that in someone’s background, that they have committed that crime that these people are being charged with, that we would get a lot more sympathy from our colleagues across the aisle.

Many were not here then. But the ones who were, who committed that crime being charged now, have it a little easier on those who interrupted us that day.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO CREDIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. TORRES) for 30 minutes.

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, in the United States, there are 1.4 million LGBTQ businesses contributing more than \$1.7 trillion to the American economy. We have a vested interest in sustaining and strengthening those businesses with equal access to credit, which is the beating heart of the American economy.

As a former New York City Council member, I partnered with the National LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce to establish the Nation’s largest municipal certification program for LGBTQ business enterprises, enabling those businesses to enjoy equal access to a \$25 billion pool of government procurement. I am continuing in the United States Congress the advocacy that I began years ago in the New York City Council.

My legislation, the LGBTQ Business Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act, builds on a foundation laid by several statutes and regulations. The Equal Credit Opportunity Act, ECOA, prohibits credit discrimination, including but not limited to sex discrimination.

A new interpretive rule from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau clarifies that ECOA’s prohibition against sex discrimination applies to sexual orientation and gender identity.

Section 1071 of Dodd-Frank, which exists to enable and enhance the enforcement of ECOA, requires financial institutions to report information about the race, ethnicity, and sex of

credit applicants who serve as the principal owners of small businesses.

My legislation would expand the 1071 reporting requirements to include not only sex but also sexual orientation and gender identity. In doing so, it would enable antidiscrimination enforcement where none might exist.

Even though the United States has made substantial strides toward LGBTQ equality, the mission is far from accomplished. Seventy percent of the LGBTQ community remains unprotected by antidiscrimination laws. When it comes to credit, in particular, according to the Williams Institute, more than 7.7 million LGBTQ adults live in States that offer no protection against credit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Francis Bacon once said that knowledge is power. Knowledge affords us the power to detect discrimination that might otherwise go undetected. Take, as an example, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, which is analogous to my legislation.

Both the National Community Reinvestment Coalition and Iowa State University reviewed data from the HMDA and found that same-sex couples were denied loans at higher rates than heterosexual couples, despite having comparable creditworthiness. It also found that those same-sex couples paid higher interest rates and higher fees.

The experience of the HMDA tells us that sunlight can be a powerful disinfectant against discrimination.

The Equal Credit Enforcement and Investment Act would make credit more accessible, credit laws more enforceable, and creditors more accountable. It would represent a triumph of transparency in the service of economic opportunity for all, regardless of who you are and whom you love.

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HATE NEVER BRINGS PEACE

Mr. TORRES of New York. Madam Speaker, earlier in the week, a public official posted on Twitter the following image of a map where the State of Israel is nowhere to be found. There is nothing accidental about the omission. Wiping Israel off the map is the objective of the BDS movement. Notice the image includes flowers to symbolize peace, as though peace meant the destruction of Israel itself.

When most Americans speak of peace, we mean the peaceful coexistence of an Israeli state and Palestinian state, not the existence of one to the exclusion of the other. Most Americans are anguished by the trauma of Israelis seeking refuge in bomb shelters in the face of relentless rocket fire. And most Americans are anguished by the deep suffering and death toll of Palestinians who live under the repressive rule of Hamas and who have fallen victim to the wretchedness of war.

The rapid-fire rhetoric that we have seen directed at Israel is so hyperbolic, so vitriolic, that it inflames rather than informs. It delegitimizes Israel

rather than deescalates the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Those propagating hate are not part of the solution, but part of the problem. Hate never brings peace. It never has. It never will.

You can either promote hate or you can promote peace, but you cannot advance both. Let us not be fooled by the pretense of peace. Let us find the wisdom to tell the difference between genuine peace and hate hidden under the guise of peace.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. GRIFFITH (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today on account of a family matter.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until noon on Monday, May 17, 2021, for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 1 o’clock and 1 minute p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Monday, May 17, 2021, at noon for morning-hour debate.

OATH FOR ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Under clause 13 of rule XXIII, the following Member executed the oath for access to classified information:

Troy A. Carter

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

EC-1110. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter authorizing eight officers to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral or rear admiral (lower half), pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 777(b)(3)(B); Public Law 104-106, Sec. 503(a)(1) (as added by Public Law 108-136, Sec. 509(a)(3)); (117 Stat. 1458); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1111. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of General Timothy M. Ray, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1112. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting a letter on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Christopher P. Weggeman, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of Lieutenant general on the retired list, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 1370(c)(1); Public Law 96-513, Sec. 112 (as amended by Public Law 104-106, Sec. 502(b)); (110 Stat. 293); to the Committee on Armed Services.